New York Tribune

First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements

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Losing the Peace

Do the people of the United States want Germany, after losing the war, to win the peace? Millions of Americans are anxiously revolving this interrogation. They do not understand, nor much want to understand, the intricacies of European politics, but some broad questions they deem themselves capable of assessing justly.

They do not want Germany to win the peace. Soldiers and civilians agree as to this. Do a heavy job over again? They cry out an emphatic negative. Yet they are full of apprehension. Since the signing of the armistice practically everything has been to Germany's advantage.

First, the coalition that defeated her has been steadily weakened through insidious attacks on its moral foundations. It has suited either the narrowness or the partisanship of American public men to draw in question the good faith of our allies. They have been presented as aggressionists and imperialists. Not only has the alliance been weakened, but propaganda campaigns, paid for out of American public funds, have been carried on to rouse the suspicions of the populations of Europe against the governments of their free choice.

Second, the policy steadily pursued toward Russia has strengthened Germany. A way is prepared for a post-war alliance. Abandoning support of the true Russians, the great Slav family whose instinct is for peace, under American leadership, there is practical recognition of a Germanized power in Russia which, seizing the supply of guns and ammunition, by force keeps the Russian masses in subjection. German traders, political agents and army drillers are to descend on Russia like locusts when peace is signed. The advance guard is already there. Lenine was on the German payroll once—for his own purposes, he says. He may be on it again, and may again say, as the bribed are likely to do, that he is only doing what he would do anyway. German organizing ability, plus the docile millions and the inexhaustible resources of Russia, means German overlordship in the region east of the Rhine and the Alps.

Third, the German industrial machine is practically intact, while that of France and Italy is shattered, and that of Great Britain greatly needs repair. Germany will be able to make a quick recovery, and she makes no pretence of repentance. Hindenburg is organizing a new army, and this army is not for self-protection. The despicable Kaiser may not be brought back, but all the signs are that his foreign policy will be.

This, of course, is not to say that Germany now has any definite or matured idea of when the conflict is to be renewed. Probably a majority of Germans are now war weary, their minds occupied with thoughts of reconstruction. But the immediate, conscious intentions of Germany are of little consequence. What the world needs to fasten its notice on is that the creation of a new power is apparently to be permitted.

Russia, as we have seen, is likely to become a German province. Austria and Hungary will be in Germany's orbit, and probably Jugo-Slavia, Bulgaria, and Rumania, against her will. Poland and Czecho-Slavia will be surrounded and powerless. With such a power managed from Berlin, who can doubt how it will ultimately be used?

No credit will be given to the democratic nations for magnanimity. Peoples so madly supported the recent war until exhausted are not to be trusted. Let us open our eyes to facts. It is supreme folly to suggest otherwise. If Germans are turned loose with weapons in their hands, who has a right to expect them not to use them?

The consequences of nagging and failing our allies are necessarily evil. To deny to our friends the means of future self-defence is bad. The business of confusing friend and foe is vicious. To place reliance on the mockeries of a league is to build peace on foundations of sand. To put the claims of party politics ahead of patriotism and to give one man a chance to pose before the world—these are betrayals of the cause of mankind. Not to these ends have brave men go across the sea; not for these are there wooden crosses in France. Lose the peace and the great hope of the world is gone. Every nation must then arm itself and carry a greater load of military preparation.

The Wheat Harvest

The forecast is for 837,000,000 bushels of winter wheat this year, against a harvested crop last year of 558,000,000 bushels and the year before of 412,000,000.

If the spring wheat crop is as large as last year—363,000,000 bushels—the total foreshadowed wheat crop is 1,200,000,000 bushels. At the government guaranteed price of $2.26 a bushel, the return to the wheat raisers will be $2,712,000,000.

Nothing like this was deemed possible. The farmers under the stimulus of the guaranteed price have maintained and added to their war energy. Not strange is it that reports come of rising land values and extraordinary prosperity in the wheat states.

Counting six bushels per capita for domestic consumption, the United States promises to have 600,000,000 for export during the next twelve months. The period of short rations in the war-swept countries draws to a close.

Not a Dummy Senator

Senator Lenroot, of Wisconsin, in his address before the Economic Club, said:

> "I sincerely hope that when the constitution is finally laid before the Senate for action it may be in such form that it will so safeguard American rights and interests that it may be ratified; but I wish very frankly to say that as one Senator I shall consider the proposed constitution upon its merits. I will not be coerced, through tying this league of nations to a peace treaty with Germany, into voting for it if in my judgment it will prove disastrous to the American people."

Here is a declaration worthy of a United States Senator. Widely advertised is the purpose so to intertwine the peace treaty proper and the covenant as to make it impossible to ratify the one or reject or amend the other. In his Metropolitan Opera House address the President, using language of menace, openly proclaimed such was his intent.

The answer of Senator Lenroot is the only one possible. If one President may coerce the Senate in the fashion sketched other Presidents may do the same. Parliamentary control over war-making and peace-making will be dead in this country.

On such an issue there can be no compromise. A Senator's oath of office forbids it. He may not elect between obeying the Executive or the Constitution. The clause of the Constitution sought to be ignored is vital and substantive—is at the very roots of our institution. Think of complaining because a kaiser or a czar has exclusive power over foreign relations and then saying the United States should have the kaiser-czar system!

No wonder the excuses brought forward by Senator Hitchcock were weak and hollow. His prayers, he said, went up for amendments to the covenant, as it is being secretly prepared in a room with a locked door and plugged keyhole, but if his prayers did not avail he would yield.

The Tossing Intellect

There happens along a quotation ascribed to Gilbert Murray which deserves a little thought. It reads thus:

> There is always a place for protests against the main convention, for rebellion, paradox, partisanship and individuality, and for every personal taste that is sincere. Progress comes by contradiction. Eddies and tossing spray add to the beauty of every stream and keep the water from stagnancy.

We do not know when these words were written. Very likely before the war. But they express very well the point of view of those intellectuals during the war who protested against every restraint upon protest, and who refused to concede that war time necessitated any subordination of personality. They express the idea, and they also, we think, suggest its fallacy. Why protests? Why rebellion? Why eddies and tossing spray? To "keep the water from stagnancy." Well, whatever else war time may be, it is certainly not a stagnant time. The stream may be too violent, too narrow, too all-compelling. But it is certainly not stagnant.

The truth is that such protests of personality as were then advocated accomplished nothing in war time save to irritate and discourage. There is no stagnation which they can bestir. But the tossing intellect can sting and annoy and vex. When heavy jail sentences were imposed upon some of our prominent protesters and rebels, for example, there were protests from intellectual and well-meaning folk who ought to have known better. The truth is that the common instinct is far wiser and saner in war time than the pet theory of the intellectual. It is at least based on the facts of human nature that if a war is to be won it can only be won by a complete subordination of individual tastes and hobbies and a complete devotion to the one job. As so often, half-way reason is here a poor enough substitute for whole-hearted instinct.

Put these same intellectuals in a blazing house and their instincts would overwhelm their pretty intellectuals and function soundly enough. They would not insist upon etiquette or a debate, or a compliance with anybody's rules about anything. They would save what they could and debate afterward. In war time, because the fire is not actually scorching them and their rare brains can work unimpaired by subconscious reactions, they spin out the most astonishing theories as to how the fellows actually being scorched should behave, and insist upon the most decorous and careful and regular procedure on the part of the firemen. "Don't make such a racket!" "Let me cross the street here!" "Why do you carry that hose across my stoop?" And so on.

We should be inclined to rest our definition of true wisdom upon the ability to know when to trust to one's instincts and let reason go hang.

The Nickel's Discoverer

At the age of twenty-five years the late Frank W. Woolworth, several years after he had left the farm, was a clerk in a country store. His salary was $8.50 a week, and on it he supported a wife and child and saved the capital of $50 with which he started in business.

He lived to see his company operate 1,068 stores in the United States and to erect and give his name to the loftiest habitable edifice ever erected. The beautiful structure, towering 751 feet, is the familiar first sign and symbol of the imperial city and its material wonders. And all this in a short life from nickels and ten-cent pieces. The Ford of the merchandising world, the flivver of trade, the great fortune came from the savings of superior organization and a multitude of transactions.

The pessimists steadily croak that the old America is no more—that opportunity's door is shut. But when a leader of the business world dies and his biography is read there is commonly a repetition of the old, old story. Yet Lenine cannot understand why America will not go Bolshevik, and the alien class-shrieker curses as he meets incredulous smiles.

To M. Jacques Copeau

The French Theatre of M. Jacques Copeau, now come to its unavoidable end, deserves to rank with the highest artistic achievements in the city's history. There was the essence of French mind in everything that was presented. That amazing clarity of thought, of structure, of action, of speech, which places the French theatre in a rank of its own, informed every play, every speech, every color and sound. Never has our stage seen a greater devotion to art, a truer loyalty to the finest and rarest.

It was as an innovator, a representative of the newer stage theories, that M. Copeau was heralded. We have learned to appreciate his unique abilities in rounder fashion. If to react from the overwrought stage, if to erect the play as something above and beyond scenery, is a new idea, then M. Copeau belongs with the innovators. But this also is an old idea, as old as Athens and as young as the Shapespearian stage. The truth is that M. Copeau sought beauty in no small formula or novelty or theory of the book. Stage, action, everything, were made the servants of the play, its true body, to express and personify, never to envelop or confound. To each play its own body. "Les Frères Karamasov" was as far distant in its presentation from "Figaro" as Moscow of one century is from Paris of another. They were equally successful.

Now that the years of M. Copeau's visit are over, there will be much regret that the city did not more largely partake of the feast which he offered. In plain fact, the barrier of language is the insuperable one. And that barrier is wholly unnecessary, if our educational system were properly conducted. There is in a city like New York an ample population of college men and women all of whom have spent years on French. If the language were properly taught there is no reason why a constant and ample public for a French theatre might not be developed. We may hope for the future, for the war, the tongue-tied experiences of our soldiers in France, have done much to awaken our collegiate authorities to the blunders of the past. The city owes much to Mr. Otto Kahn and his associates, and we hope greatly that their efforts will continue. We hope, too, that our city's universities will begin at once that hearty coöperation which ought to exist between their French courses and the city's French stage.

But that is for years to come, and here and now the thanks of the city go to M. Copeau for his rare artistic success, for the whole spirit and example of his art, which we would confidently assure him have had an effect farreaching and profound. The message of such art is not to be measured by the numbers who attend. What are numbers, anyway? Ask the Germans at the Marne. It is precisely by such devoted and valiant leaders as M. Copeau, fitly representing his great people, that civilization is saved and the torch held aloft and aflame.

Usurpation

"There are illegitimate means by which the President may influence the action of Congress. He may bargain with members, not only with regard to appointments, but also with regard to legislative measures. He may use his local patronage to assist members to get or retain their seats. He may interpose his powerful influence, in one covert way or another, in contests for places in the Senate. He may also overbear Congress by arbitrary acts which ignore the laws or virtually override them. He may even substitute his own orders for acts of Congress which he wants but cannot get. Such things are not only deeply immoral; they are destructive of the fundamental understandings of constitutional government, and, therefore, of constitutional government itself. They are sure, moreover, in a country of free public opinion, to bring their own punishment, to destroy both the fame and the power of the man who dares to practise them."

WOODROW WILSON.

The Conning Tower

DUDS

At most of the critical jargon
It's hardly my province to sneer;
For, oh, I can still conjure up quite a thrill
At beauty that's "stark" or that's "sheer."
But no more I react to "reaction"—
The language's duddiest dud—
And "arresting," at best, has no power to arrest,
And "poignant" 's unpoignant as mud.

Through "One Who Did His Bit" this department is enabled to pin a citation on the large hearted breast of Mr. James Forbes, of the Over There Theatre League. "I was one of the birds," writes "One Who Did His Bit," "that hung around New York last June and July waiting for passports. And who got them? Jimmy Forbes got them. And who kept us happy while we were waiting? He did. He got us across. Look what he did for us in France when he went over there. He got us more money and fought our battles with the Y. I was there. You ought to hear the performers talk about him. We thought when he got back from France they would give him a parade up Broadway and they haven't given him a dinner. It makes us performers dead sore. He's a great little guy and we love him."

THE DIARY OF OUR OWN SAMUEL PEPSY

April 4—With Major R. Barlow the playactor to luncheon and he tells me of his days in France; and thence with I. Irvin and my wife to Spuyten Duyvil, and saw his new house and his wife Dorothy; both pretty.

5—Up, and for a ride in the country in my petrol-waggon with my wife, and we stopped at M. Glass's and found J. Montague there, too, and had dinner there, and thence home, but my wife distrait when I drive faster than 10 miles an hour.

6—Early to the office, and early finished with my stint, and then with S. Spaeth to the courts, and played for the first time in 19 months, and did not do so ill neither, losing only two setts in four. But no speed to my strokes soever. To my inn, and found there R. Hughes and Mistress Adelaide, and they to dinner with us, and thereafter all to the playhouse and saw Miss Crothers' "39 East," too syrupy for my taste, but Miss C. Binney engaging, and H. Hull and Miss A. Skipworth doing well, too.

7—Lay late, my arm stiff and sore from exercising, and I fear I am growing old, forasmuch as never before have I felt thus on the first day of exertion. All day at the office, at my stint, and I find it hard to hold a pen, what with the stiffness of my wrist. In the evening to the dinner of the Authors' League, and my wife to see Mrs. Fiske in her merry play.

There is no doubt that there are irritating delays in the Peace Conference, but it is understandable. For years tennis experts have been deliberating on the questions of amateurism and the footfault rule; and neither question has been decided.

Persian Apparatus

[From the Glens Falls Post Star]

CELEBRATE return of Company E. Furnish your home with Oriental rugs. Moderate prices. N. Atiyeh, 36 Mohican. Phone 453-R.

Some stockings have one advantage and some another, but Orson's favorite is Onyx Hosiery, the merit of which, according to the advertisement, "reveals itself quickly."

The Mantle of O. Henry With Patch Pockets.

Sir: If you had the opportunity of acquiring another man's style, would you do so? O. Henry's tailor wants to make me a spring suit. A. G.

The daylight saving is what is so aptly called a boon, to golf and tennis players; but it is going to make a lot of liars out of those of us who promise to be at home for a 7—or in May, June and July an 8—o'clock dinner.

More or Less Assemblage

Sir: "Meeting Largely Attended by Everybody," headlines my home town paper, which, every well informed person must know, is the Winchester, Ky., Sun. I take it a good-sized crowd was present. Do you think my inference correct?

JOE A. JACKSON.

Alderman Algernon Lee, quoted in the Times, challenges the Mayor to name "a few of the aliens whom he alleges are 'preaching murder and sedition.'" Nonsense! Whom preaches that stuff?

Joe Mulvey

Sir: A day or so ago in your Palimpsest of Pyrrhonism I noticed a curt, cold, quickly-dismissed reference to "Mulvey, 3rd Base, Philadelphia." One rarely peers through the pathos of distance with undimmed eyes, and yet the lithe form of Mr. Joseph Aloysius Mulvey is very vivid to me. Your readers will undoubtedly be interested to know that Mr. Mulvey played all the infield positions with equal facility. Just why the cigarette card should place him at third base is a mystery to me. He was really a catcher and received for Bobby Matthews (a distant relative of Brander), who was the inventor (if the word may be so used) of the curve ball. Mr. Mulvey had a blue cheek from ear to ear like the supers in a third rate Shakespearian troupe; and he was the first ballplayer I ever saw that affected the manner of phooieing on his gloved hand. Another one of his characteristics was the upturned collar of his shirt, worn so even on a hot Philadelphia August afternoon. One day at a critical stage, with the bases filled and two out, Joe pasted the ball to deep centre for what appeared to be a homer, but aberrantly ran toward third. Doubtless this is the reason the Cigarette Historian now links his name with that sack.

P. G.

The interviews the ex-Kaiser is giving must cut frightfully into his wood sawing.

IDLE THOUGHTS OF AN IDLE BARD

It is a job when one has spent
A twelvemonth as an army gent
To write a poem full of fizz.
(What gems I used to write to Liz!)
My muse a change has underwent.

(My grammar too.) There's quite a dent
In both. And I shan't rest content
Until they're mended, though, gee whiz,
It is a job

To do a come-back. If my bent
For o. f. lyric merriment
Would but return! My muse has riz
Against all fluff. It's growing biz-
Nesslike. Its theme, friend? (This you scent!)
It is—a job!

EDAR.

The President is gradually taking people into his confidence. When Admiral Grayson asked him last night how he was feeling, he said, "A little better."

F. P. A.

DON'T BE NERVOUS

I'll be right over here, only 3,000 miles away

—Gaar Williams in *The Indianapolis News*

Concerning the Nonpartisan League

Farmer—Labor

By Kenneth Macgowan

VII

THE Nonpartisan League has its limitations—limitations of outlook and of scope. A. G. Townley realizes this. He realizes that a farmers' party pure and simple may be a bourgeois party pure and simple; satisfied with high prices for grain and cattle and low prices for farm labor. He realizes that a farmers' party pure and simple can never be a national party, however important it may become as a wielder of the balance of power. Townley realizes these things as the leader of the Farmers' Alliance and of the People's Party realized them in the '80s and '90s. And, like them, he is broadening the outlook and the scope of his party by allying it with labor. If the league's farreaching plans materialize by 1920, it will not only control the electoral vote of from six to thirteen agricultural states, but it will also be a national "producers' party," significant and powerful wherever industrial labor is active and politically minded.

The Alliance With Labor

Townley began his alliance with labor back in 1917. It was in Minnesota, the one state of those then organized by the league where labor really counted for something. With characteristic acumen, he was looking forward to the state election of 1918. Labor had become powerful and politically minded in Minneapolis. That was the secret of the large Socialist vote polled by Thomas Van Leer in Minneapolis, which finally put him in the Mayor's chair by a small majority. Van Leer ran as a Socialist, but he got the support of the Minneapolis central labor body and he got labor votes. In the fall of 1917 Townley saw his opening. It was the streetcar strike in the Twin Cities. While it twisted its way through the customary intricacies of the War Labor Board's arbitration, the Nonpartisan League gave the union $5,000 toward its war chest. To labor that was better evidence of common interests than speeches and pamphlets and programmes.

Fourteen Points

Very soon Townley supplied these, too. With declarations of the common interests and common sufferings of the farmer and the laborer, and under the name of "Farmer-Labor," the Nonpartisan League and the Minnesota Federation of Labor went into the campaign of 1918. Both state and city labor bodies got behind the ticket, after naming the candidate for Governor. In the face of one of the most violent "disloyalty" campaigns ever launched in the United States, "Farmer-Labor's" exact amount of success is hard to estimate. The union didn't carry the election. A large mass of the labor vote wasn't delivered or deliverable. But the league "stuck" and won with labor an unquestionably solid minority and solidarity. The next step—in December—was to approach the newly-formed Labor party of Chicago. As preparation, the league issued its "fighting programme" and "fourteen points." Half of them dealt with matters affecting labor.

RECONSTRUCTION

2. A reconstruction programme must be adopted which will provide employment for all, reduce the cost of living, maintain the earnings of labor and of primary producers, make an end of monopoly extortion, and redeem the state and national governments from the autocratic control of monopolies and in this way make our nation safe for democracy.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

3. The termination of the present national control of railways and all other public utilities, not by returning the properties of triplicate order blanks, giving the date to private monopolies, but by national ownership, which shall be extended to include all means of transportation and communication, and all other undertakings, which in their nature must be either great private monopolies or public enterprises.

HOMES, SCHOOLS AND EMPLOYMENT FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

4. Employment for the unemployed, in cooperation with organized labor, through government works in such enterprises as road building, forestry and timber and fuel production, flood protection and land reclamation. The national improvement, with buildings, stock and machinery, of reclaimed or purchased lands, to be sold as going concerns, on long-time amortized payments, to returning soldiers and to others able to make small initial payments, all such undertakings to be provided with free schools for vocational training.

THE ENFRANCHISEMENT OF WOMEN

5. The complete enfranchisement of women, with equal opportunities with men and equal pay for equal services.

NO WAR PRICES IN TIME OF PEACE

7. The immediate reduction of freight and passenger rates, especially on food and fuel.

POLITICAL RIGHTS OF PUBLIC EMPLOYES

8. The immediate abandonment of all interference with the political rights of employes in the public service, or the exercise of any further postoffice censorship.

THE MILLIONAIRES AND THE WAR DEBT

9. The national debt created by the war should be liquidated; and to that end there should be an income tax and inheritance tax, graduated upward from $5,000 until all incomes above $100,000 per annum, and all inheritance above that amount, shall be appropriated for that purpose until the debt is paid; and all incomes not accounted for and all income producing properties, securities and inheritances not listed for this purpose shall be forfeited to the government.

GAMBLING IN LIFE'S NECESSITIES TO BE MADE IMPOSSIBLE

11. The use of the mails, telegraphs, telephones, express companies and banks shall be denied for making sales of goods, properties, investments or securities, except for direct delivery by the owner or his authorized agent; and then of the specific goods, properties, investments or securities involved, in order to eliminate gambling and speculation in necessities of life.

The Chicago Labor party came back with fourteen points of its own:

1. Right to organize.
2. Democratic control of industry.
3. Eight-hour day and minimum wage.
4. Abolition of unemployment.
5. Equal rights for men and women.
6. Stop profiteering.
7. Abolish Kaiserism in education.
8. Soldiers and sailors' insurance for all workers.
9. Abolition of inheritances above $100,000.
10. Public ownership and nationalization of natural resources and railroads and public utilities.
11. Free speech, free press, free assemblage.
12. Labor representation in the government.
13. Labor in the peace conference.
14. An end to kings and wars.

A National Convention

The next step was the presence of the Nonpartisan League's Governor—North Dakota's Governor—Lynn J. Frazier, at the ratification meeting of the Chicago Labor party. Frazier explained the farmers' legislative accomplishments, and received a pledge that the Illinois Federation of Labor would deposit its funds with the North Dakota state bank if "Big Biz" tried to wreck the new enterprise.

Following the ratification meeting, it became known that the Nonpartisan League had taken an active part in an agreement by which the farmer organization will participate in a national convention to which representatives of all the city labor parties formed or forming will be called. With the announcement from the abortive National party of pro-war Socialists, intelligentsia and social reformers that it will stand ready to join the new party movement, the existence of a third party in 1920 is a practical certainty.

Leaders of the Nonpartisan League and the labor parties feel dissatisfaction with both the policies and the personalities of the two old parties. They have their own policies pretty well outlined, but in talking personalities they are vague. Frank P. Walsh, who has thrown his lot with the labor group, is much discussed by the labor leaders as Presidential timber. The farmers talk more of La Follette. Outsiders say that Hearst will get aboard the new party in order to grab the nomination. This idea wins no enthusiasm from either league or labor. They distrust his motives and they don't fancy his reputation. They consider his radicalism (vide Mexico and universal military service) a garment of circumstances. As for his power as a newspaper and magazine magnate, the league has all the periodicals it needs in its own field, and Chicago labor leaders say that they will do a lot to escape the support of the local "American" or "The Examiner."

Such are the political potentialities of A. C. Townley, plus the more and more evident fact that the "extreme left" movement in the Socialist party, which threatens to turn the organization toward Bolshevism, will, if successful, force a large number of the party into the more moderate radical party of "Farmer-Labor."

The Disappearing Teacher

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: One wonders occasionally whether the teachers' pay bills are going to pass this winter. And as one wonders one is given to musing upon the shallow reasons that underlie our laws; the narrow motives that actuate our legislators.

If the legislators at Albany think the teachers deserve more pay, they may grant it. Which is a narrow reason.

If the legislators think an increase in teachers' pay will affect the duration of their political lives, they may grant it. A narrow reason.

If the legislators have time, they may grant it. A narrow reason.

If the legislators think the people would like to see the schools more efficiently conducted, they may grant it. A narrow reason.

If it is the prime duty of lawmakers to guard the safety of the commonwealth and the nation; if it is their duty to enact in due time laws that will combat the evils that threaten common security; if it is their duty to strengthen, fortify and defend the institutions of the United States and of the individual states; if this be their duty, then it is the urgent duty of the lawmakers at Albany to grant the teachers a reasonable wage.

The country has not enough teachers.

When you can go into the heart of the great city of New York and find schools where daily eight and ten classes are without a teacher, what shall you say of the vast rural districts of our country? Yet the rural population of the United States is greater than the urban. When you consider that right here in our own Empire State we have not begun to meet the problems that present themselves in the education of our country children, what shall you say when you view conditions such as exist, for example, in Alaska, or in Key West, or in the mountains of Kentucky, or in any one of a thousand places where American children are growing up to be ignorant, vicious burdens of society?

The country has not enough teachers. New York State has not enough teachers. The army of teachers is dwindling day by day. And it will continue to dwindle so long as teaching does not pay at least a living wage. Through sheer neglect we are weakening the one great barrier that stands between the United States and the social unrest that feeds upon ignorance. To preserve the United States, preserve her army of teachers.

Let New York lead the way!

New York, April 4, 1919. H. R. S.

How About the Farm?

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: After reading the article in The New York Tribune of April 2, "New Bread Line, 800 Men Long, Forms in City," I feel that I would like to have Mr. Ledoux ask those eight hundred men, more or less, who might continue to patronize his "reconstruction bread line," a question.

That question is this: "How many of those eight hundred men would be willing to go out in the country and work on a farm, where they would have three good meals a day, a good bed to sleep in at night, and a well filled pay envelope at the end of the month?"

Where do they suppose the food comes from that is handed out to them? From the producer, of course, and the farmer is the original producer of all foodstuffs, and at the present time it is impossible for him to get labor enough to produce the food that is required not only for these men out of work but for the whole country, as well as for export.

If the men who patronize these "reconstruction bread lines" would stop and consider for a moment the fact that if they would go out on a farm and help produce the bread they eat there would be no need of a bread line; and if the originators themselves, of this bread line, realized the situation of the farmer they would impress upon the minds of their "800" patrons the need of men on the farms, and therefore help to relieve a situation that is growing more than serious.

M. W. FAITOUTE.

Somerville, N. J., April 2, 1919.

Wet Chicago

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In your editorial of April 3, "Personal Liberty Straws," you say:

> "In Chicago there was a vote on the question, 'Shall Chicago be dry territory?' On this issue only 67,797 men and 70,325 women voted yes, while 268,539 men and 124,781 women voted no. But the drys discount the result by the assertion that they made no effort to get out their vote, as the country was so soon to go dry anyway."

But this "discount" is seen to be worth very little when the figures are considered. The total of the wet vote as above given is 391,280; the total vote for the Mayoralty candidates—Republican, Democrat, Independent Democrat and Labor—was less than 663,000. If, then, every voter that went to the polls in this tremendously exciting Mayoralty contest were counted with the drys unless he (or she) actually voted wet, the vote would stand in round numbers, 391,000 wet against 273,000 dry, a majority of 118,000 against prohibition. And of course this supposition is grotesquely favorable to the prohibition side.

STRAIGHT THINKING.

New York, April 4, 1919.